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BOOK REVIEWS.

All book reviews are by the Editor-in-Chief unless otherwise expressly stated.

A Treatise on the Virginia Prohibition Act—By T. B. Benson, Member of the Michie Editorial Staff, Associate Editor of the VIRGINIA LAW REGISTER, and Author of *Questions and Answers to Bar Examinations*, etc. Price \$2.50 in buckram; paper \$2.25. Published by L. F. Smith and W. F. Souder, Jr., Charlottesville, Virginia. Box 325.

No work can be of more importance and interest to Virginia lawyers than this work of Mr. Benson's. The writer does not attempt to argue either for or against the law, nor does he attack or question its constitutionality, as a whole; but he does not, however, fail to comment and express his opinion upon the doubtful questions which arise in the construction of this difficult act and gives reasons which speak for themselves. He takes up the whole law, analyzes the act, arranges the various provisions relating to each subject under separate sections, and has done a work which is of great credit to himself and of almost incalculable value to lawyers at this time. The work is most carefully done and questions so far as cases have been adjudicated are answered fully and completely. There is no work to take its place and the editor-in-chief, who happens to be an Attorney for the Commonwealth, had occasion within a very few moments after its receipt to examine it for questions arising under the law and was able to give an answer a few moments after consultation. There can hardly be any higher testimony to the value of the book.

The Torrens System—A Manual of the Uniform Land Registration Act in Virginia, to Which Is Appended the Annotated Act, Proposed Rules of Court, and a Complete System of Forms. Eugene C. Massie, Richmond, Virginia. Richmond: Everett Waddy Co. 1916. Price \$2.00.

If ever any man was entitled to be called the father of an act the learned author of this valuable little volume, Col. Eugene C. Massie, is entitled to be named the Father of the Virginia Act, and if the act proves of any value in the State of Virginia the entire credit is due to Col. Massie, who has given ungrudgingly and unceasingly time and labor and thought to this law. The present volume is simply another evidence of Col. Massie's ability and interest in this subject, and to any person who contemplates taking advantage of the Torrens System, this little book is invaluable. As far as the reviewer is personally concerned he does not believe in the value of the Torrens System for an old State like Virginia, but he pleads guilty to being a Mossback and must confess that the perusal of this little volume has convinced him that there is a possibility that his views on the subject may be wrong. This is a tribute, we are sure, to the value of the volume.

Handbook of the Law of Wills—By George E. Gardner, Professor of Law in the Boston University School of Law. Second Edition, by Walter T. Dunmore, Professor of Law in the Western Reserve University Law School. St. Paul. West Publishing Company. 1916. Price \$3.75.

The second edition of this valuable "Horn book" is a decided im-

provement in many ways. The law has been brought up to date and as twelve years have elapsed since the first edition was published, this means a great deal. The additions are large and the notes have been much extended.

The author has retained without much change the statements in the black-letter text, though he candidly confesses that there are some defects. This must of necessity occur occasionally, but the value of this black-letter arrangement is so apparent that we are willing to run some risks to have it retained, especially when the author calls attention, as he does in this edition, to any conflict in authorities. We constantly use this series as a "starter" in looking up questions which daily present themselves in practice.

Lawyers Reports Annotated. 1916E. Burdette A. Rich and Henry P. Farnham, George H. Parmelee, Editors, Assisted by the Publishers Editorial Staff. The Lawyers Co-operative Publishing Company, Rochester, New York. 1916. Price \$5.00.

We welcome this new volume of these admirable reports, which we always examine with interest and generally find of much value. Amongst the annotations which have struck us in the present volume are the following: Page 118, "Beneficiaries and Parties Plaintiff to Statutory Action for Death, Including Necessity of Pecuniary Loss or Dependency." Page 256, "Accession to Property Which is the Subject of a Conditional Sale or Chattel Mortgage." Page 316, "Collateral Attack upon Judgment because of Insufficiency of Pleading." Page 482, "Duty and Liability of Carrier as to Baggage Not Checked." Page 686, "Injunction to Prevent Infant from Breaching Contract Made by or for Him." Page 790, "Recovery by One Who Abandons a Contract for Work or Labor or Services, without Excuse or Justification." Page 863, "Settlement between Guardian and Ward out of Court." Page 997, "Character of Nuisance as Continuing; When Cause of Action Arises; Successive Actions." This annotation quotes at some length our two leading Virginia cases on the subject—McKinney *v.* E. H. College, 117 Va. 763, and Va. Hot Springs Company *v.* McCrea, 106 Va. 461. The more we use these volumes the more we are struck with the value of the new arrangement in giving the subject of annotation at the top of the page. It renders the use of the book much easier.